

Amendments to the Claims

The text of all pending claims and the status of each claim is identified below:

1. (Currently Amended) A method to be performed in a computer system for configuring an internet file system, the method comprising:
 - accessing, by a user, a server that is configured with an application;
 - creating, by the application, an internet file system for the user;
 - storing, by a directory, a home folder of the user, wherein folders and files in the home folder are available at a root of the internet file system;
 - providing, by the application, a received [first] folder and a friends [second] folder in a root of the home folder, the received [first] folder containing folders that represent folders and files that have been shared with the user, and the friends [second] folder containing objects of the user and communities that are of interest to the user; and
 - creating, by the application, an auxiliary class containing a shared path [first] attribute, a received paths [second] attribute, and a friends [third] attribute, wherein the shared path [first] attribute is used to quickly identify [find] other users that the folders and the files in the home folder have been shared with, the received paths [second] attribute is used to store names of the other users and a path of the folders and the files that have been shared with the user and to populate the received folder, and the friends [third] attribute is used to allow the user and other users with common interests to share folders and files of the common interest.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising accessing, by the user, the internet file system.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising attaching the auxiliary class to a user object when the folders and the files are shared with the user.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising enabling the user to modify granted rights to the shared folders and the shared files.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising enabling the user to disallow the sharing of the folders and the files.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising populating the first folder with the stored names of the other users and the path of the folders and the files that have been shared with the user.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising creating communities of users with common interests, wherein the communities are stored as groups in the directory and the users are members of the groups.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for file sharing, the method comprising:
creating, by the application, an auxiliary class containing a shared path attribute, a received paths attribute, and a friends attribute, wherein the shared path attribute is used to quickly identify other users that the folders and the files in the home folder have been shared with, the received paths attribute is used to store names of the other users and a path of the folders and the files that have been shared with the user, and the friends attribute is used to allow the user and other users with common interests to share folders and files of the common interest;

sharing, by a first user, a file with a second user;

in response to the file sharing by the first user, adding, by an application, the first user to the [a] friends [third] attribute of the second user;

adding, by the application, the second user to the [a] friends [third] attribute of the first user;

adding, by the application, a path of the shared file and a user name of the second user to the [a] shared paths [first] attribute of the first user;

adding, by the application, the path of the shared file and a user name of the first user to the [a] received paths [second] attribute of the second user; and

making available, by the application, the shared paths [first] attribute through a folder of the received paths [second] attribute, wherein the folder belongs to the second user.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 further comprising, if the first user modifies rights to the shared paths [first] attribute, determining by the application which user the folder has been shared with and what rights the user has been granted.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising notifying the second user, by the application, that the file has been shared with the second user.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising placing, by the application, objects of the first user and the second user into a folder of the attribute that is located in an internet file system of the first user and in an internet file system of the second user.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising sharing the objects by the first user and the second user.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the shared paths [first] attribute, the received paths [second] attribute, and the friends [third] attribute are located in a directory.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the first user has a received paths [second] attribute and the second user has a shared paths [first] attribute.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for creating user objects in a directory, the method comprising:

creating, by the application, an internet file system for a user;

providing, by the application, a received folder and a friends folder in a root of a home folder of the user, the received folder containing folders that represent folders and files that have been shared with the user, and the friends folder containing objects of the user and communities that are of interest to the user; and

creating, by the application, an auxiliary class containing a shared path attribute, a received paths attribute, and a friends attribute, wherein the shared path attribute is used to quickly identify other users that the folders and the files in the home folder have been shared with, the received paths attribute is used to store names of the other users and a path of the folders and the files that have been shared with the user and to populate the received folder, and the friends attribute is used to allow the user and other users with common interests to share folders and files of the common interest;

if the [a] user shares a folder with another user who is not registered with an application in the directory, creating a temporary user object with an email address as a name of the another user;
submitting, by the another user, a registration form;
determining, by a script, if the email address corresponds with the another user; and
if the email address corresponds with the another user, updating the temporary user object based on information provided in the registration form, else do not update the temporary user object.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 further comprising, if there is no corresponding user object, creating a new user object based on the information provided.

20. (Original) The method of claim 18 further comprising monitoring, by the script, interests the another user has submitted in the registration form.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 further comprising associating each interest of the another user with a group object in a container of the application.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 further comprising adding the another user as a member of each interest group.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22 further comprising adding the each interest group to a list of friends of the another user.

24. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the information includes at least one item from a group consisting of:

the email address;
a user name;
a password;
a first name;
a last name;
an address; and
interests.

25. (Currently Amended) A system for configuring an internet file system, the system comprises:

a server configured with an application, wherein a user accesses the application and the application creates an internet file system for the user; [and]

a directory that stores a home folder of the user, wherein folders and files in the home folder are available at a root of the internet file system, wherein the application further provides a plurality of folders in a root of the home folder, and wherein the application further creates an auxiliary class containing a plurality of attributes[.];

wherein the plurality of folders provided by the application includes a received folder containing folders that represent folders and files that have been shared with the user, and a friends folder containing objects of the user and communities that are of interest to the user; and

wherein the plurality of attributes created by the application includes a shared paths attribute used to quickly find other users that the folders and the files in the home folder have been shared with, a received paths attribute used to store names of the other users and a path of the folders and the files that have been shared with the user, and a friends attribute used to allow the user and other users with common interests to share folders and files of the common interest.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A system for file sharing, the system comprises:

means for creating for each user, by an application, an auxiliary class containing a shared path attribute, a received paths attribute, and a friends attribute, wherein the shared path attribute is used to quickly identify other users that the folders and the files in the home folder have been shared with, the received paths attribute is used to store names of the other users and a path of the folders and the files that have been shared with the user, and the friends attribute is used to allow the user and other users with common interests to share folders and files of the common interest;

means for sharing, by a first user, a file with a second user;

means for adding, by the [an] application, the first user to the [a] friends [third] attribute of the second user in response to the file sharing by the first user;

means for adding, by the application, the second user to the [a] friends [third] attribute of the first user;

means for adding, by the application, a path of the shared file and a user name of the second user to the [a] shared paths [first] attribute of the first user;

means for adding, by the application, the path of the shared file and a user name of the first user to the [a] received paths [second] attribute of the second user; and

means for making available, by the application, the shared paths [first] attribute through a folder of the received paths [second] attribute, wherein the folder belongs to the second user[.]; and
a processor for executing said means.

29. (Currently Amended) A user internet file system comprises:

a data storage device;

a directory that stores a home folder of a user, wherein folders and files in the home folder are available at a root of the internet file system, wherein an application further provides a plurality of folders in a root of the home folder, and wherein the application further creates an auxiliary class containing a plurality of attributes;

wherein the plurality of attributes comprises:

a shared paths attribute used to quickly find other users that the folders and the files in the home folder have been shared with;

a received paths attribute used to store names of the other users and a path of the folders and the files that have been shared with the user;

a friends attribute used to allow the user and other users with common interests to share folders and files of the common interest;

wherein the plurality of folders comprises:

a received folder, populated using the information stored in the received paths attribute, so that it contains folders representing files and folders that have been shared with a user and the names of those who shared the files and folders with the user; and

a friends folder that contains the user's objects and community folders that contain information that are of interest to the user.

30. (Original) The file system of claim 29 further comprises a root similar to a home folder of the user.

31. (Original) The file system of claim 30 wherein files and folders in the home folder are available at the root of the file system.

32. (Currently Amended) A directory stored in a file system, comprises:

a user object;

a home folder of the user, wherein the home folder is an attribute of the user object, the home folder further comprises a received folder that contains folders representing files and folders that have been shared with the user and the names of those who shared the files and folders with the user, and a friends folder that contains the user's objects and community folders that contain information that are of interest to the user;

an auxiliary class being attached to the user object in response to [when] files being [are] shared with the user;

wherein the auxiliary class comprises a plurality of attributes which includes a shared paths attribute used to quickly find other users that the folders and the files in the home folder have been shared with, a received paths attribute used to store names of the other users and a path of the folders and the files that have been shared with the user, and a friends attribute used to allow the user and other users with common interests to share folders and files of the common interest;

a community folder that includes topics of interest to the user; and

a group object associated with each topic of interest.

33. (Original) The directory of claim 32 wherein the auxiliary class is attached to the user object when the user shares files with other users.

34. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having instructions encoded thereon, the instructions [software application executable on a computer, the application] comprising:

creating a user internet file system;

providing files in a root of a user's home folder; [and]

providing a received folder and a friends folder in a root of the home folder, the received folder containing folders that represent folders and files that have been shared with the user, and the friends folder containing objects of the user and communities that are of interest to the user; and

creating an auxiliary class attached to an object of the user if the files are shared via the internet file system, wherein the auxiliary class further comprises a shared paths attribute used to quickly find other users that the folders and the files in the home folder have been shared with, a received paths attribute used to store names of the other users and a path of the folders and the files that have been shared with the user, and a friends attribute used to allow the user and other users with common interests to share folders and files of the common interest.